

## **Minutes of the CCR-FYI Steering Committee (SC) Meeting**

**August 26, 2004, Thursday 12:00-1:00 pm**

**Bethesda: Building 37, Rm 4041, 301-435-7427 (phone: 301-402-9194)**

**Frederick: Building 549/Conf Rm B (700-848-1113) (phone: 301-46-5864)**

The meeting was called to order.

In attendance were:

*Bethesda-* Val Bliskov, Sohrab Bodaghi, Swati Choksi, Derrick Cox, Robert Dean, Kathleen Dohoney, Chava Kimchi-Sarfaty, Melinda Merchant, Arti Patel, Edwin Posadas, Margaret Pratt, Renuka Sivendran, Kwang Suh.

*Frederick-* Arindam Dhar, Melissa Maderia, Anne Welcker, Kevin Chang, Maja Bumke, Susan Lindtner, Humcha Hariprakaha

*Excused absences* – Ramalakshmi Darbha, Cem Elbi, Anil Shanker.

### 1) Points of Interest:

- a. Retreat Survey (Melissa and Maja are still working)
- b. CCR-FYI Newsletter (Kathleen): A couple of submissions (regarding the retreat) have been received thus far and more are encouraged. Please send any additional submissions to Laksmi ([lakshmi@NCIFCRF.GOV](mailto:lakshmi@NCIFCRF.GOV)). Note that the contributions don't have to be in pristine, finalized form when submitted.

Submission deadline for the next newsletter is September 9.

### 2) Subcommittee Reports

- a. Retreat Subcommittee (Derrick Cox):

Derrick thanked those who helped in sending out letters to invited speakers. These letters will be followed up by e-mail

The question was raised regarding what should be done if those potential speakers initially invited decline the invitation. Should we have another round of nominations and a new vote on who to invite or continue with the current list of nominees? Derrick offered to send the list of potential speakers out to the SC. He would like to have a consensus on how to proceed and maintain adequate diversity without a revote of the SC if speaker invitations are declined. It was decided to continue working from the current list of proposed speakers, as it is

already diverse and the SC cannot be faulted if our “diverse” invited speakers decline. If the need arises we will elicit more nominations.

The retreat chairpersons met in mid-August to discuss the various workshops to be offered. Career workshops were popular and there was discussion regarding the scheduling of workshops for maximum benefit but it was decided to table said discussion until workshop topics had been decided. An e-mail will be sent out to CCR fellows requesting suggestions for workshop topics. Current proposed topics include:

- Careers in industry, academics, government, etc..
- Skills for job seekers (grant writing, etc.)
- Visiting fellows (visa issues, etc.)
- Transferring within NCI (clinical to lab, lab to industry/tech)

Dr. Barrett has confirmed that he will be attending.  
Dr. von Eschenbach has not yet confirmed.

c. By-Laws/Policy Subcommittee (Sohrab)

For the purposes of voting, a quorum was declared. A verbal description of the proposed changes in the By-Laws was given. There was some discussion regarding the proposed changes. A vote was taken and by a majority show of hands the new By-Laws were approved. By-laws will now be sent to Office of Director for approval.

d. Publicity/Social subcommittee

A going away happy hour is planned to wish Anne Welcker all the best as she moves on from NCI. The event will take place Thursday, Sept. 2, 6 pm at Hamburger Hamlet in Gaithersburg, near the Rio Theater off Washingtonian Blvd.

e. Scientific Subcommittee

Will convene again in September

f. CCR-FYI e-mail

Chava reports that an e-mail has been received from a 12-year-old boy who wishes to join CCR-FYI. The By-Laws subcommittee will be reviewing this request in light of the newly approved by-laws...

3) Other business

- a. Melissa thanked everyone for the good attendance today and encouraged us to keep up this trend.
- b. FELCOM (Melinda):
  - The FELCOM social is scheduled for Friday, September 17 from 5-11 pm at the FAES house, 9101 Old Georgetown Rd. (across West Cedar Lane from the fire station). Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door. Fellows, postdocs, grad students and the families thereof, and even the Scientific Directors are invited. Contact your FELCOM rep. or Linda at [petersl@nidcd.nih.gov](mailto:petersl@nidcd.nih.gov) for tickets.
  - FELCOM is sponsoring a jobs fair on September 30. More information will be forthcoming by e-mail.
  - Melinda also introduced Martin Guimond, who recently arrived at NCI from Montreal by way of Ohio State U.
- c. NPA (Arti):
  - NPA is currently accepting nominations for its executive board
  - The next NPA national meeting will be held in San Diego in March and travel awards will be available
  - The NPA International Committee is doing a lot of work and may collaborate with CCR-FYI's International Fellows Subcommittee
- d. Kathleen pointed out that the CCR-FYI newsletter will be a good place to advertise meetings, events, calls for nominations, etc..

4) Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Pratt  
Ramalakshmi Darbha  
CCR-FYI Secretaries  
September 3, 2004